



LOOKING OUT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Protecting public safety pensions

Not only did I actively support measures to protect our schools, neighborhoods and communities, I also worked to protect the brave men and women who have dedicated their lives to our public safety.



During the budget negotiations, Democrat lawmakers in the House and Senate started looking at raiding a pension fund of our law enforcement officers and fire fighters. Called the LEOFF 1 retirement system, it had generated more than \$1 billion in surplus funds back when our stock market was strong. When the stock market cooled, the LEOFF 1 surplus had dropped by nearly \$1 billion. Thanks to our strong efforts to protect the fund, we saved our

police and fire department retirement system and prevented our state's budget from falling even further out of balance.

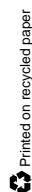


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KEEPING OUR
NEIGHBORHOODS SAFE

State Representative
Dan Roach

PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600



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From the Desk of Dan Roach

Dear Friends,

Keeping our neighborhoods safe, getting drugs out of our schools and away from kids, and preventing the state from moving dangerous sex offenders anywhere into community were all top priorities of mine as your state representative.

I'm pleased to report that we made important progress on all of those issues and more. Even with the 49-49 tie between Republicans and Democrats in the House, some things are too important to let them fall victim to mindless partisanship and bickering. The safety of our citizens and families is at the top of that list.

If you have any questions, concerns or advice, please don't hesitate to call, write or e-mail me. As I always say, the more I hear from you, the better I can represent you in Olympia.

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Roach
Your State Representative

413 John L. O'Brien Bldg.
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
(360) 786-7846
roach_da@leg.wa.gov

Committees:

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A COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

As your state representative, I strongly believe that public safety is the paramount responsibility of government. While our national leaders work diligently in your nation's capital to protect us from the threat of terrorism at home and abroad, we're committed to doing everything we can at the state level to make our neighborhoods safe.

PROTECTING CHILDREN & STUDENTS

Few things tear at my heart as strongly as when I hear about a child or young adult falling victim to crime or drugs. I actively supported a number of measures in the House this year designed to protect our young people. They are, after all, Washington's future, and they deserve our best efforts today.



Stepping up the war against meth



Methamphetamine, or "meth" is a growing and deadly threat in our state and in our local community. We are finding it in homes with children, on our streets, and even in our schools. New production methods have made it cheap to manufacture – and this dangerous drug now poses a great danger to the safety of our children.

This year, we passed a law making it illegal to sell or possess large quantities of the ingredients used to make meth. Unfortunately, another bill I supported, which would have added meth production to our state's list of "three strikes and you're out" offenses was blocked. I'll keep working to see meth production added to this list, because just maybe criminals will think twice before manufacturing this drug if it means the possibility of life behind bars.

The manufacturing of meth has already resulted in the deaths of innocent children, and has ruined the lives of countless families around the state. Just the production of this drug poses a serious threat to our environment because of the chemicals used.



Already I have begun working with students in our 31st District-area high schools to find new ways to keep meth out of our schools. I'll report more on the findings of this student meth advisory board early next year. It is my goal to bring students from our community to Olympia next year to join me as I introduce anti-meth legislation that they will have helped me write.

As long as there are more meth labs out there, and we all know there are, I'll be working to see our police get the tools and resources they need to combat this evil substance.

Combating student identity theft



The crime of identity theft is an increasing problem throughout Washington. Identity theft threatens an individual's credit history and good name, but it can be particularly devastating for students in particular. To combat this serious crime, I supported legislation to limit our state's colleges and universities from using a student's Social Security number for any identification purposes, except those required for employment, financial aid, transcripts, or as allowed by state or federal laws.

While protecting our students is an important first step, I also supported legislation that would have allowed the Washington State Patrol to create an identity theft bureau, a specific task force to track down and prosecute these crooks. This measure fell victim to partisan politics, but I'll work to see that its reconsidered next year.

KEEPING OUR STREETS SAFE

When criminals are allowed to run rampant, no one is safe. That's why I supported a wide variety of public safety bills to attack crime from a variety of angles and directions. As you read through this section of my newsletter, consider whether there are other public safety issues you'd like to see me addressing, and please call, write or email me with your questions, comments, concerns and advice.

Keeping sexual predators away from your neighborhoods

Thanks to a deal we struck with the governor, the state's Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) won't be locating all of our state's most



dangerous sexual offenders on McNeil Island near Tacoma. While we aren't immediately at risk from the predators housed there, the more there are, the more that risk grows. Its important to me that our region of Washington isn't saddled with the entire state's population of sexual offenders. As your state representative, I'll continue working to make sure they are kept as far away as possible from the children and families who live in our community.

Assistance for victims of violent crime

This year, I supported legislation to help victims of violent crimes rebuild their lives. Unfortunately, this support for victims became a casualty of partisan politics and did not pass. However, I believe that helping victims of crimes is an important role that our state government must play, and I'll work hard to see that needed resources are allocated to help victims recover from these terrible crimes.